

FALL 2019

PORTHOLE

SAILING NEWS FOR MANITOBA AND NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO










Gerry Davis 2019

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President's Message

BY LIZ KRISTJANSSON



As sad as I am to say goodbye to summer, I am always hopeful and look forward to the changes the new season brings. In this issue of the Porthole you can take the time to reminisce on all the summer sailing events as well as get a glimpse of what next season will bring.

For Sail Manitoba there were many highlights. Sail Manitoba staff and volunteers blew the doors off our first ever Canada Day Celebration at our Winnipeg Sailing Centre with 65 participants lining up to get out on the water with us. All of our programs and courses were also well attended. Several young sailors traveled to Falcon Lake Yacht Club and Victoria Beach Yacht Club to attend qualifiers for the upcoming MB games in August 2020.

The Master Laser Championships in August at RLWYC was another highlight with over 45 laser sailors competing from all over Canada, the US and the Caribbean. Thank you to our very own Katja Smutny and Shelby Williams for executing this summer's programming and to all our many volunteers and club hosts for all their dedication and hard work in delivering a safe professional environment for all of our sailors.

We also have more changes on the horizon. As most of you know, Katja Smutny has recently moved on from her role as Executive Director to pursue new opportunities. We thank Katja for her past commitment and wish her well in all her future endeavors. The good news is, we believe that we have found the right candidate to support Sail Manitoba's mission and values before the coming season. We are pleased to welcome Sheila Bellido as our new Executive Director of Sail Manitoba. If you have the chance, stop by the office and wish her a warm welcome to the team!

Incidentally, this is also my last porthole article as President. I will be passing the helm over to Phil Burns at our AGM on November 20th, 2019. Please welcome Phil Burns and support Phil in his role as President of Sail Manitoba. Phil is passionate about our sport and we can all look forward to the excitement and energy Phil will bring to his new position.

In closing, please enjoy all the articles ahead and start dreaming about our next sailing season because as you all know the seasons will change again before we know it.

Thank you!



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Note from the Editors

BY SHELBY WILLIAMS + SHEILA BELLIDO

This was another big summer for Sail Manitoba! As per usual, our Manitoba summer just flew by with tons of new sailing adventures to keep us warm and motivated this winter.

The Winnipeg Sailing Season started off with a bang at the end of May as the 6th Annual High School Sailing League kicked off with 10 teams competing for the big trophy. We also had great participation in our CANSail lessons which kept our coaching staff of Kayden Polachek and Becca Brown very busy! We had incredible participation in our day programming at our Winnipeg Sailing Centre from the Beaver and Cub Scouts and can't wait to have them back next year! We also had the Boys and Girls Club of Winnipeg join us for 5 evenings of sailing sponsored by Mike Couture and the Couture Capital Group. Great job Mike!



The Mobile Sailing School added a week at the Dryden Yacht Club with much success as well as continued our annual visits to Falcon Lake, West Hawk Lake, Black Sturgeon Lake, and Manipogo Provincial Park. This was made possible by the addition of two more Zests and three World Wide Sailor Prams to our trailer! This program kept our amazing coaches Anthony and Evan very busy with both youth and adult lessons. We are all looking forward to the further expansion of this program next year! The 2020 Manitoba Games qualifiers for the South, West, East, and North regions took place this summer to select the teams that will be traveling to Dauphin next summer. Keep a look out for the Winnipeg Blue and Gold region qualifiers early 2020 for your chance to compete!



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

It has been only days since I have started my new role as Executive Director with Sail Manitoba. I may not be a sailor, but I am a believer in taking on new opportunities, never stop learning, and taking on new adventures! I come to Sail Manitoba with years of experience in financial and project management. It is my hope that we continue to work hard to develop great sailors either as coaches, competitors or as cruisers, and to increase our public awareness in our communities, our province and our country.

I know I have big shoes to fill as my predecessor, Katja Smutny is great at both sailing and managing the program. I wish Katja the very best in sailing and in her profession.

As well, I would like to extend gratitude to Shelby Williams, Head Coach and Technical Director; Liz Krsitjansson, President; the Board of Directors, Competitors, Participants, Parents, Club Members, as all of you have played a vital role in the success of our programs, supporting our competitors, and embracing the sport. As we move into the ice and snow, please continue to send us your thoughts, stories, and photos. The 2020 Program dates will be posted on our website soon, and if you have any questions or comments, please don't hesitate to contact me at sailing@sportmanitoba.ca

'You can't control the wind, but you can adjust your sails' - Kristen Proby.

Head Coach Update

BY SHELBY WILLIAMS

This summer was easily my busiest, fastest (and best) summer with the Provincial Race Team yet. We travelled to Kelowna for our Sail West Championship, participated in several Manitoba Games qualifying events, and capped off the season with the Sail Canada YOTS and Youth Championships/CORK International. I had the pleasure of having world class 29er coach Kelsey Stroppel join me for the Sail West Championship held at the Central Okanagan Sailing Association sailing site.

The Race Team also got to experience a brand new rental truck for most of the July and August schedule as our programs were incredibly busy this season. The team was sorry to see it go when the race camps were finally over!

Travelling from Winnipeg to Kelowna and Kingston, and back was a daunting schedule and could not have been executed without my incredible coaching sidekick Anthony Clark. Anthony was my jack of all trades, seamlessly jumping from program to program where we needed coaches. Anthony and I also had the opportunity to coach with Canada's best at the Youth Olympic Training Seminar held in conjunction with the Youth Nationals.



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The training camp saw Laser, 420, and 29er coaches from all over Canada push their coaching strategies to the limit to challenge their groups and connect with each other and the sailors in a meaningful way in a very short time frame. I have never experienced Laser training conducted like that before and I can say I definitely learned a lot.

We are all looking forward to participating in the 2020 Manitoba Games in Dauphin next summer and to get the chance to sail on Clear Lake. Games years are always a time of growth for the team and I can't wait! Congratulations to all of my team athletes that qualified for the 2020 Manitoba Games and thank you to those too old to participate but still willing to come volunteer and support their team mates!

As always I would like to thank the amazing parent volunteers that make my work possible. From trailer packing and unpacking, dinners, driving, chaperoning and entertainment you never fail to show up, help out, and make youth sailing in Manitoba absolutely amazing!

Coaching Development Weekend

BY TOMAS GREEN



This year Sail Manitoba held a coaching clinic over May long weekend at Fort Whyte Alive to introduce the coaching aspect of the sport to sailors who may be interested in coaching in the future. The schedule for the weekend was organized so that the first day would be coaches Shelby Williams, Anthony Clark, and Kayden Polachek demonstrating what our lessons should look like. After the coaches completed their lessons, we rigged the 420s and went sailing to complete the demonstration of the on water sessions. After the on water session we debriefed and went home. The next day I was up first with my lesson on down speed maneuvering, then Katie who was teaching tacking. After our lessons we hit the water to do some drills for our respective topics and called it a morning. That afternoon Evan had an evaluation session, the highlight of the day for me was when I was sitting in the coachboat and watching the sailors do my drills. The fact that they understood what the drill was and could do it felt awesome. On to day three where Jonah and Kendra were up next with their lesson on reading the wind. This was ironic because on that day there was next to no wind! After the lessons we hit the water for one last go and had a successful morning of sailing. That afternoon the wind had picked up so we went back out on the water for some fun races, me and Kendra were paired together and did really well for people who have never sailed in the same boat before. A huge thanks to Sail Manitoba for running this event, it was an amazing experience and I would do it again in a heartbeat. Additionally to the thousands of geese that inhabit fort Whyte in the spring thank you for not attacking me and my friends.



High School Sailing League

This year was another great regatta series for the High School Sailing League at the Winnipeg Sailing Centre. Each week saw 8 teams hit the water from high schools all over Manitoba to battle it out for a spot in the championship racing week. As usual at our little prairie pond, conditions were tricky and the wind fell as the sun set each race day. This made for some very technical light wind sailing and we often saw the sailors paddling their way to the docks at the end of the racing as they tried to stay out until the last of the wind died away. The final results are as follows:

Champions: St. Paul's Collegiate and Balmoral Hall - Linus Schweizer and Lauren Burns

Finalists: St. John's Ravencourt - Peter Magnus and Aidan Lawton

Buffalo Cup

The 16th Annual Buffalo Cup at the Winnipeg Sailing Centre had another great turnout this year with 5 boats competing for the Buffalo Trophy as part of the high school sailing series. The day started out breezy but very shifty! The races were only 15-20 minutes long and during that time span the course would go from a windward/leeward to a reach to a reverse windward/leeward from what we had setup and then back again! The sailors who were patient able to read the conditions and persevere, won the day! We were able to get five races in before the wind started to die in true Fort Whyte style as the sun began to set. The teams had to skulk themselves to shore by the end of the night as the lake surface quickly turned into glass.

Thank you to
all for a well
run race series
and congrats to
all participants
on a great event
on our tiny city
sailing lake!

WINNERS:

1st - Kendra Penner and Kayden Polachek

2nd - Lauren Burns and Linus Schweizer

3rd - Avery Nuefeld and Malia Neufeld

4th - Evan Owen and Chloe Card

5th - Aidan Magnus and Peter Lawton



Viking Cup



The Sail Manitoba provincial race team participated in yet another Viking Cup in Gimli this spring. We had some added Laser competition from Mike Couture and Charlie Burns as they were dusting off their Laser skills in preparation for the Canadian Masters Championships to be held at the Royal Lake of the Woods Yacht Club in August. The conditions made mark set nearly impossible as the breeze would fill in, shift 180 degrees, die, and shift back. We were able to get 4 races in and the wind really picked up during the last race as a storm moved to the south of us near the end of the day making for some exciting finishes. The races were run by myself and my support coach Kayden, I couldn't have asked for a more patient assistant as we set and reset marks all afternoon. The coaches really appreciated everyone's patience while we tried to make good fair races throughout the afternoon!

LASER RESULTS:

- 1st - Linus Schweizer; Laser Radial
- 2nd - Lauren Burns; Laser Radial
- 3rd - Mike Couture; Laser Radial
- 4th - Jonah Friesen; Laser Radial
- 5th - Charlie Burns; Laser Standard
- 6th - Gavin Garabed; Optimist
- 7th - Kendra Penner and Katie Sauer; 29er



Sail West 2019

BY KENDRA PENNER

First off, I would like to thank Kelsey Stoppel for guest coaching alongside Shelby Williams, the Sail Manitoba athletes were extremely grateful to have this dynamite duo coaching us throughout this event.

Secondly, I would like to thank Jacquie Friesen for being the team chaperone and for taking care of us for this event. A huge thanks to these three individuals, it wouldn't have been the same without your three.

This year Sailwest was held at COSA which is located in Kelowna, British Columbia. There was roughly 150 participants and Sail Manitoba was proudly represented by Lauren Burns, Katie Sauer, Tomas Green, Kendra Penner, and Isaac Haughn, who is Saskatchewan sailor who joined Sail Manitoba for this event. You can ask anyone who was at the event and they would say that it was a very memorable and great experience as we spent our time throughout the week playing uno, swimming, celebrating Laurens birthday and admiring the mountains that surrounded the lake we sail on!

Sailwest consisted of 2 days of training followed by 2 intense days of racing, Kelowna is known to have no wind and its reputation proceeds itself as there was no wind throughout the entire event, but let's just say that we all perfected our roll tracks by the end of Sailwest.

The training and racing took place on Okanagan Lake. Training was filled with smiles and great coaching which we had all enjoyed and we even got a surprise visit by a duck that Kelsey decided to name Donald. Racing was also filled with smiles and some laughs while we "patiently" waiting for the wind to fill in.

Here is the results of how our Sail Manitoba athletes did;

RADIALS

Lauren Burns - 19th

Tomas Green - 24th

Johan Friesen - 28th

Isaac Haughn - 34th

*there were 38 radials in total

29ERS

Katie Sauer & Kendra Penner- 1st

After we attended the awards ceremony we loaded the trailer and went to tour Kelowna and we got to see the Kelowna sails. The following morning we flew back home.

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Thanks to everyone who made this event possible and I hope to see y'all at the next Sail West!



Mobile Sailing School

BY EVAN OWEN

The Mobile Sailing School traveled to six different lakes this summer to provide yacht clubs with the means to have CanSail 1 – 4 lessons. Sail Manitoba provided the clubs with two instructors, a curriculum, a coach boat and a trailer full of sailboats for novice sailors to practice in.

The travel logistics were well thought out. We had one long drive out East to Dryden for the first week of lessons then we worked our way back to the city stopping in Black Sturgeon, Falcon Lake and West Hawk. After we had finished that stretch, another pair of instructors took the program to Red Rock and following that we went up north to Manipogo.

The yacht clubs where I gave lessons were very kind and accommodating, giving us free range of their clubhouse and grounds to teach our lessons. We were even offered assistance launching sailboats and coach boats along with help on the water from a couple of the clubs.

In Dryden the kids were a mix of excited and cautious seeing as the Mobile Sailing School had never been to Dryden before. We got off to a slow start due to very high winds the first day, but by the end of the week they were comfortable sailing and following a course. While we were in Dryden, we heard about a large demand for adult lessons, so we set up an evening class right away. For Wednesday, Thursday and Friday the adults enjoyed a shortened version of the curriculum to give them a head start next season.

Next up we had Black Sturgeon. I was personally excited to teach at this location because of the gung-ho attitude of the sailors there. In the morning we had one CanSail 1&2 class and one CanSail 3&4 class while the afternoon had a CanSail 3&4 class and three older CanSail 1&2 students. This is the only location where we gave CanSail 3&4 lessons. This year there were three consecutive days where the winds were very high and we had to consider not sending anyone out, but the CanSail 3&4 students convinced and proved to us that they could handle high wind with only a few capsizes.

Our third stop was Falcon Lake. This was a nice halfway point for me because the Falcon Yacht Club is well established and has smaller class sizes giving me more time to work with students individually and catch my breath. The majority of the students at FYC are returning students. This helps because I know they can follow a course while I'm working with a more novice student.

The Fourth stop was West Hawk Lake. West Hawk is special to me because its where I learned how to sail through the same program I'm now teaching. The WHLYC is known for its large class sizes. This year we had twenty-five kids.



The large amount of kids was much more manageable this year due to the new clubhouse and dock that was finished earlier in the summer. The students learned quite a bit about geographical wind shifts in the bay behind Big Island and enjoyed annual races on the last day.

Lastly, we had Manipogo. Accommodations were wonderful if you enjoy camping as much as myself. My main concern at this location was the shallow water. We taught lessons off of the main beach and had to walk our sailors out twenty feet before they could put their dagger boards down. I was concerned that an opti might get their mast stuck in the bottom if they turtled. All in all, the sailors enjoyed lessons and a long adventure sail to an island on our last day. Following our week of lessons, we had some return the next day for the Norman Manitoba Games Qualifier. Looking back at the summer I had a blast and hope to do it again next season.

Annual Instructors Clinic

BY SHELBY WILLIAMS

This summer the Winnipeg Sailing Centre was host to another fantastic Sail Manitoba Instructor Clinic. We chose to bring back Alberta based Learning Facilitator Kelsey Stroppel for another successful clinic. Manitoba continues to be the only province that offers the entire clinic in one week and let me tell you, it's a lot of work! The Winnipeg summer also proved challenging this week as 17 candidates practiced and developed their sailing and coaching skills in classic Manitoba +35 heat. We had 12 rookie coaches take on the full clinic to start their coaching careers as well as 5 experienced instructors challenge their CANSail level 3 and 4.

I really love our coaching clinic as its brings in talented sailors from all over the country. We get participants from all over Canada, Europe, and the US in their journey to become sailing instructors. Some come from out of province just to take advantage of our condensed course schedule while others travel from abroad for their summer at the lake which makes for a very diverse group of sailors.

It also provides me with an excellent challenge every year as we adapt to the group to put on the best clinic possible. I can't wait to see what next year brings us!

Sail Manitoba is also excited to announce its first ever CANSail 5/6 Technical Clinic in the 2020 season. Details will be posted following the annual planning session in early November. Stay tuned!



Prairie Wind Regatta



The Prairie Wind Regatta was the first for the Provincial Race team and a great warm up event to start the racing season. This event was a small regatta therefore was run by the coaches. We had Mike Couture out as a little added competition for our Laser Radial group which made for some exciting racing. We had a great light easterly breeze all day with warm sunny skies and could not have asked for better conditions, (unless you ask our youngest team member who's only request is always more wind please!!!).

OVERALL RESULTS:

- 1st - Mike Couture; Laser Radial
- 2nd - Linus Schweizer; Laser Radial
- 3rd - Lauren Burns; Laser Radial
- 4th - Tomas Green; Laser Radial
- 5th - Jonah Freisen; Laser Radial
- 6th - Gavin Garabed; Optimist
- 7th - Kendra Penner and Katie Sauer; 29er

Thank you
to all the
participants
of our first
regatta!



District 4's and Manitoba Games South Region Qualifier

BY JONAH FRIESEN



The training camp started on the 18th but we unpacked the trailer on the 17th of July. The day was nice, 22 degrees. The 18th there was almost no wind. We rigged up and were almost ready to go out when a storm rolled through. The storm finally passed and we decided to go out for an evening sail. Coach Shelby also went out with us in a laser. We almost made it around an island at the end of the lake when we saw another storm coming and we had to race in instead. On the 19th it was a lot windier, about 23 knots and there were a lot of thunderstorms. We derigged and some of the team members went to Sauer's cabin for supper. When the storms finally passed we had a group vote and decided to go to the park and play on the play structures.

July 20th was the first day of racing with light to medium winds. There were 17 lasers, 5 double-handed boats, and 4 optis registered for the regatta. The wind was very shifty and the race committee decided to send us in after the fourth race. That was when the wind started to pick up and it was a struggle to get back to shore. The scores after the first day were as follows: Marieke Bordasch and Kayden Polachek tied for first, each with 6 points; second was Lauren Burns with 20 points, and Jonah Friesen in third with 21 points. The Falcon Yacht Club hosted a BBQ supper for all of the competitors and members. After supper, the team decided to go back to the park. We played on the "Christmas tree" some more and then played some volleyball.

The final day of racing, July 21st, the wind was all over the place. The Race Committee managed to start a race, then in the middle of that race the wind shifted ninety degrees and died. Because of the shifty, variable winds, the RC only managed to get two more races off, much to everyone's disappointment. The scores were much more spread out today, with Marieke Bordasch in first with only eight points, Kayden Polachek in second with fifteen points, and Lauren Burns with 19 points. Optis had four participants, with Kingsley Parkhill in first, Charlie Wilson in second and Gavin Garabed in third.

Overall it was a fun training camp and regatta. There were a lot of twists and turns that really added to the overall experience!

Pelican Training Camp

BY GAVIN & LIAM GARABED

On July 12th - 14th we went to Pelican Lake for a training camp at the Pelican Lake Yacht Club which included the Big Bird Dinghy Regatta and the Western Qualifiers for the 2020 Manitoba Summer Games. This was my (Gavin) first training camp of the summer and it was Liam's first camp he had ever attended. There was 2 Opti's, 4 lasers and 1 29er.

The first day we had very light winds but still had lots of fun out on the water. After sailing on Friday we went back to Anthony Clark's cabin and had some supper then played cards, followed by a campfire and roasting marshmallows.

On Saturday winds were a bit stronger which gave us time work on starts and rounding marks for the races on Sunday. In the Opti's Liam and I also worked on heading up wind and bearing off. Afterwards we went back to the Clark's cabin for supper then we went to Y-Point (Strathcona Park) for ice cream and a swim as the weather was very warm.

On Sunday we were woke up early from a big thunderstorm that rolled through at about 5am that moved and flipped over some boats. We started the day with Trevor showing us the course on land and we did a walk through before hitting the water. Once we rigged up and headed out the winds were strong and very shifty. Lawrence had to reset the course quite often. We got in 5 races that day. I, Gavin, qualified for the Male Opti's and Jonah qualified for the Male Laser Fleet for the 2020 MB Summer Games.

The Big Bird Regatta results were as follows:

OPTIMIST

Gavin Garabed
Liam Garabed

LASERS

Thomas Green
Evan Owen
Jonah Friesen

29ER

Kendra Penner & Katie Sauer





Richardson Regatta

BY KATIE SAUER

Lake of the Woods never fails to provide Sail Manitoba with dynamic and challenging conditions. This year's Richardson regatta was no exception. While the wind wasn't necessarily always easy to navigate, it provided an opportunity for both physically and tactically demanding sailing.

The large range of wind-speeds and wave conditions created opportunities for every sailor and boat class to excel. The combination of sailors and fleets also added a layer of difficulty and offered an interesting dynamic on the race course. Between the Lasers, double-handed boats, and the Scows, there were always opportunities to practice strategic sailing. This year was especially exciting because one of our very own team members, Lauren Burns, won the overall class in a laser radial.

An RLWYC regatta would not be complete without the hospitality of billet families. Each member of the team was hosted with one of the families living nearby. This gave us an opportunity to interact with different club members and experience the beautiful islands of Lake of the Woods.

All of these aspects combined, made up for a wonderful experience for not only myself, but for everyone in the regatta and on the team.



BOOT Camp

BY TEUN KEIJZER



At the start of summer, I had very minimal sailing experience (now they call me Tom Slingsby). I have now participated in the Learn-to-Sail program hosted at Black Sturgeon Lake for two years in a row. This summer, when Phil approached me and asked me to do BOOT Camp, I was worried and anxious if I would be good enough. Sailing with the Provincial Team as a novice seemed ridiculous to me. So, on the boat ride over to Phil's cabin, I was feeling terribly nauseous due to the nerves. However, as soon as I arrived, everyone greeted me with a smile, and I was welcomed like a member of the team in the first ten seconds of meeting them.

The first day was a slow day, the wind was really calm. We went over some tactics and played tag with tennis balls. Despite that, I still learnt a lot from all of the experience that was on the water with me. The second day was terrible for sailing since there was absolutely no wind, but we had fun: we went swimming in the 'rapids' of Black Sturgeon. Day three was race day and I was extremely nervous for the races. I had never raced before and I was sailing against some top talents in Manitoba. Despite my nerves, I had a great first-day racing. Ironically, the races when I chose to follow other people (and not doing what I thought I should do) were the races I was more successful.

On the final day of BOOT camp, which also consisted of racing, I was a mess: I fell out of my Laser at least 10 times, I lost my hat (and was mercilessly attacked by black flies). Terrible. However, throughout the day, everyone kept encouraging me. When we got back, everyone told me I was doing really well. This was awesome to hear after getting chunked out of the boat on every downwind, not knowing I was sailing by the lee! Overall, my experience with the Sailing Team was incredible. I already look forward to the many camps next summer.

2019 Youth Olympic Training Seminar

BY LAUREN BURNS

This year, the race team had the opportunity to participate in the second annual Sail Canada Youth Olympic Training Seminar in Kingston, Ontario between August 9-11. The training is designed to bring youth sailors from across Canada high level coaching and drills leading up to Youth Nationals/CORK International.

Our first day of training consisted of an information session on rigging and correct sail controls in addition to a short period on the water as there was a thunderstorm. We then ended in a short talk about sport psychology by Katie Yeo.

Throughout the training seminar, we also had the opportunity to participate in other activities that would later positively influence our future sailing training. For example, our second day began with an early morning yoga session in the boat yard as a relaxing start to our day. In terms of sailing, our training was mainly focused on starts and speed tuning throughout the three days. To accomplish this, we worked through multiple different drills in smaller groups, each run by a different coach. After a long day on the water and an engaging debrief, we listened to Martha McCabe, a two-time Olympic Swimmer, speak about her successes and challenges with getting to where she is now. More specifically, she touched on the importance of mental health, goal setting and unwavering dedication in sport.



As we stayed in the dorms at Queen's University, we were located very close to the Nixon Field where we spent part of our evenings as a team, playing ultimate, soccer and some football. In addition, a few of us also went to the athletics centre and took advantage of their squash courts for an evening and went for a short run along the waterfront.

Our final training day commenced with a talk from John Hursch about his local knowledge and what to expect when sailing in Kingston. As we were preparing for a large regatta, that would arrive in two days and the winds were fairly strong, our last session consisting of three practice races. The day ended with John Ladha as a guest speaker to discuss his experiences as a sailor and the many financial opportunities that exist for racers all around the world. Once again, YOTS was a challenging, yet rewarding experience. It is my belief that we all were able to take a considerable amount of information and inspiration from this training opportunity.

Youth Nationals & CORK International

BY: LINUS SCHWEIZER



The annual Youth Nationals Sailing event took place in Kingston, Ontario on the week of August 12. With over 100 athletes from across the country, this event was one of the biggest of the season. Living up to its reputation, Kingston delivered both its famous heavy winds and low winds. Unfortunately, for the sailors the former occurred during training and the latter during the actual regatta. Most of the regatta days consisted of sailors waiting for the winds to pick up. On the occasional gust, the race committee would start a race and be forced to abandon it because of a 30 degree wind shift. Over the four days, 9 grueling races were completed and the young sailors showed their frustration at the boat launch; the 100 enraged sailors squished their way through the launch that was only 3 boats in width. There was a great deal of screaming, boat collisions, and broken wind indicators. All in all, the 2019 Youth Nationals event was a great learning experience that all participants could attest to.





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Viper 640 Regatta

BY LUKE BOGUSKI

Expanding my horizons from the shores of Lake Winnipeg, I spent the summer sailing along the Ottawa River with the Nepean Sailing Club in their weeknight series on a Viper 640. My teams went to expand their own horizons by competing in the Lake Champlain Viper 640 regatta held near Shelburne, Vermont, the weekend of September 21st-22nd. This led to an exceptional learning experience for all involved.

We arrived in Vermont on the Friday to rig the boat. Late to the party, several crews had already set up their boats and were gathering by a boat which boasted an inflatable cat tied to their main halyard. The boat's name was Meow! and its skipper sported a pair of bathing shorts covered with pictures of cats. At first, I assumed the crowd was due to the inflatable cat, flying like a flag off the mast. The gathering of crew was rather just there to share stories of previous regattas.

That night we arrived at our billet's house, right next to the yacht club. The sailors' who opened their house up to my crew told us of the beautiful sights of the encircling from the lake, and of the fair winds in store for us that weekend.

On the first day of the regatta, sailing out of the tree-shadowed bay, I got to witness firsthand the beauty of Lake Champlain. As a prairie boy, used to the flat shores of Lake Winnipeg, I was stunned at the valley views of Lake Champlain. The Green Mountains of Vermont to the East, the Adirondack Mountains of New York to the West, and a beautiful clear water lake in the middle. The colours of the maples had just started to show on the mountain peaks, a brilliant orange on the morning of the first day. Sadly, while the sights were true to my host's word, the promised winds fell flat. We were only able to get one race off before the lake turned to glass.

The Sunday the wind blew through the valley with a steady 14 knots. In contradiction this day brought my attention away from the views and onto the regatta. There were plenty of close finishes, near broaches, and lots of spray flying over the gunnels over the five races held. These waves were nothing compared to the swells that can sometimes be found from a strong North wind in Gimli. However, they provided an excellent training ground to those used to the flat waters of the Ottawa River.

I learned a lot from the Lake Champlain Regatta. It was my first regatta in a Viper and was quite the change from my days in the Laser. One of the biggest differences would be the sense of community, from getting tips on rig tuning from Meow!, to the sharing spirit that went all the way from the slips and the boat ramp, to the BBQ after races. I hope to see more of this community and get a chance to race a Viper in the upcoming years.



Master Canadians

BY: MARC PELLERIN

Having had some time to reflect on this past weekends sailing experience, I'd have to declare it, from a personal perspective, an unmitigated success! The success is many-fold and of all the lads and one lass involved, I felt compelled to briefly explain.

In June sometime, my sister Colette and I began discussing the whole Master's Laser competition as a bit of a lark. Unfortunately (or fortunately) we did so during one of our 'Happy Hours' and as the liquid portion of HH continued our reminiscences of our ancient sailing days became more storied and way more fun than they probably ever were. Needless to say, by the end of the evening she and I were perusing Kijiji for used Lasers...we had planned on going as far as Owen Sound to grab a pair for \$750 each, but alas they were sold and we ended up heading to Geraldton (not much bloody closer) where we snagged "Mel" and "Iris". So...to any of you - Mike C. for sure - who had a hand in instigating this Regatta, Colette and I are most grateful for the re-connection (between us) you provided, the road-trip and the reintroduction to the Laser fleet.

Many of you have a more direct connection with my brother Steve or the Old Man and to some extent with Colette, as she has maintained, more than I, at least some contact with the sailing community. I knew of you fella's, hung out the odd time back in the day, but didn't really know any of you particularly well. This past weekends opportunity to sail with you all, exchange a few pleasantries, share a little rum on "grey dock"...well it was completely and utterly enjoyable...you're a good bunch and that was a fun weekend!





To the Black Sturgeon crew; Phil...you and I were pretty evenly matched. I look forward to knocking heads with you and Mike & Rob (and Colette). You guys have a good thing going there and Colette and I will be happy to join! At the end of the day fella's, I thought I'd snag a Laser...take a run at it...re-sell the damn thing and move on. Instead, I think I may have been re-hooked! Colette and I are already loosely committed to the Canadian Masters 2020, which I understand are to be in Ottawa and I can modify my pontoon trailer to carry six boats if needs be! On top of that, we think we have Steve more than a little interested in coming back to the fold for that event!!

Side note: Day 3 completely buggered me. A respectable 17th in R1 was followed by "Turtle Fest" in R2. I had thought, to myself, the heavier the wind the greater my chances of "cavemanning" my way to the middle of the pack but after Turtle Fest and a ridiculous delay in getting R3 started, I confess to succumbing to the elements and retiring. That's a tough confession for a rugby guy and a guy who spent most of his cop time downtown and in the North End...thought I was tougher than that...another reason to stay in the game - redemption!

A 'tip-of-the-old-scrum-cap' to the lot of you - that was fun...the 8 man tin-boat run for shore in the pitch black only adds to the awesome memories. It was an absolute pleasure boys...Be well, enjoy what remains of the summer season, look forward to seeing you all on the water at some point - Cheers!



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A Season of Sailing the Viper 640

BY ANDREW MURTOMAKI



Traditionally my sailing season has always involved getting the boat ready, pulling the covers off in the spring, waxing and prepping the boat followed by countless hours on the water training with my wife and crew. 2019 was not to be any regular year. It all started in January, Audrey and I traveled down to Sarasota Florida for the Viper 640 Mid-Winter event #2. I had been invited aboard #166 Porkchop, by Matt Hebert and crew Dana. Warm weather and fresh breeze Saturday allowed race committee to get 7 races off for the 27-boat fleet. Sunday unfortunately was cancelled due to high winds. Which allowed us to get caught up on some boat work.

In June I traveled to Ottawa Ontario, where I participated with Matt Bennett and crew Miles on #85 Eh Game for the Viper 640 Canadian Championships/Nepean One Design. This year's format was modified to allow additional racing Friday night to maximize racing, this was well received by sailors. Friday's racing was very exciting as the edge of a storm front rolled through the course making for challenging conditions for those not tuned to the unexpected changes. Saturday and Sunday racing conditions were light and challenging.

In July my final Viper event of the season was located in Marblehead Massachusetts (an hour north of Boston). I sailed with #39 Patches owner Marcelo Pererira and crew Hugh. The event was the annual Marblehead NOOD regatta. Upon arrival at the Boston Yacht Club I was in awe of the harbour, 35 to 50-foot sailboats moored across a large bay, with Club owned water taxi's shuttling the sailors to their boats as most clubs in the area do not have docks for their members. The large event tent had been set up in the parking lot to accommodate the 166 boats amongst 13 fleets of one design boats that had registered. Day 1 met us with beautiful weather and a 10-knot breeze. We hoisted the sails and slipped in and out of the moored boats in the harbor on our way out to the race course.

The race committee was able to knock off 4 solid races in challenging oscillating breeze which saw multiple lead changes through out the day, and a bullet for our team. Day 2 started out a bit cooler with winds in the 15-knot range. The fleet finishes were tight, with most boats finishing within 2 boat lengths apart. As we headed out for day 3 Hugh and I noticed that the wind direction and speed was similar to that of day 1 and worked hard on tactics to get us to the front of the pack, calling and analyzing the puffs as they came through the course. After 3 days and 11 races the Marblehead Nood event was over, and Robert Boditch was crowned the champion.

In August with help of our crew Neal Boyd we set up our boat to train in Winnipeg Beach at the Boundary creek Marina. Audrey worked on her skippering and helming skills, while Neal rotated positions from jib to spinnaker. I know a lot of appreciation of roles within the boat was learned from rotating positions, and new skill were developed. We also had the opportunity to showcase Lake Winnipeg to fellow Viper sailors from Boston and Ottawa. It was really beneficial to have others from our one design community to come sail on our boat, to talk about boat set up, boat handling techniques and spend time with friends. As the 2019 season comes to an end, we begin planning and wondering what our 2020 Viper season will bring.

If you have any questions about the Viper 640 feel free to contact us or go to www.viper640.org

September George Island Express

BY CHARLIE BURNS

Sunset on our way to George Island was amazing. We interpreted this as a good omen as we had almost cancelled the trip due to the passing of our dear friend and amazing sailor Peter Scott.

The crew, Gary Harmer, Bob Macintyre and I sailed for 26 hours straight to George Island as we thought we would catch up to our friends on Beamer who had departed from Gimli 8 hours ahead of us. We stayed on the shipping lanes to avoid the fishing nets that night.

Unbeknownst to us we passed Beamer in the wee hours of the morning. Amazing south winds gave us an average boat speed of 6.1 knots and a fantastic ride. Needless to say no one fell asleep at the helm and 26 hours later we arrived on George Island.

George is incredibly beautiful and really in the middle of nowhere. Its remoteness, sand dunes, beaches, weather stations, abandoned lighthouse, fish plant, and an incredible safe harbour give it its allure. We stayed on George for one day exploring the island and even braving the cold waters for a much needed swim. That day we were visited by the Poplar River Barge who was seeking shelter from the waves generated by the strong west winds.

Our trip back was in strong north winds gusting to 33 knots. On leaving George we covered 20 nautical miles in 2hrs and 10 minutes averaging over 9 knots. Waves were building to 8 to 10 feet and we were regularly surfing at over 13 knots.

We stopped in Princess Harbour where we ate and slept well. The next morning we signed the famous Princess Harbour log book and talked to Brenda the long time Harbour Mistress. There we learned that Beamer had missed the southerly winds and was unable to make it to George.

Our motley looking crew after 26 hours, tired but glad we had arrived in George Island. We left Princess and sailed straight back to Gimli. We arrived at 10:00 pm with a cold rainy westerly blowing in our faces. Probably the most uncomfortable sailing we had encountered .

As we sailed south from Black Island we left Pearson reef to starboard and we stayed 5 miles offshore to avoid the fishnets until we were abeam of Gimli and then motored in against the winds with all hands on deck looking for fishnets. Once in the Harbour we were welcomed home by Peter Jones and Cliff Carefoot of Beamer with celebratory Rums and lots of discussions about both our amazing trips.

Already we are all looking forward to next year.

Victoria Beach/MB Games Development Camp

BY SHELBY WILLIAMS

This summer the Provincial Race Team returned to the Victoria Beach Yacht Club for the first time since 2015! The team absolutely loved the atmosphere of the Victoria Beach community, they especially love getting to bike everywhere. The team was treated to dinners every night by the club commodore, Brad Scott, who put on a great spread and prepared enough to feed an army every night!

This training camp was by far the most successful and well attended by local Learn to Sail participants of the 2019 sailing season. Olivia, Talon, and Andrew did a fantastic job coaching the athletes from their program towards a great set of races.

This training camp was host to the best soccer game the team has ever seen with great participation and competition brought by the Victoria Beach crew! Each evening was another great activity opportunity with team yoga led by club alumni Willie MacDonald, beach volleyball, swimming, and frisbee.

Throughout the week and into the weekend the south wind blew and with it brought a massive sandbar into the bay! The team was amazed at how far they could walk out (more than 100 meters) and still not be able to get your blades down. This made sailing out and getting the coachboats in the water a bit tricky but it sure made mark set easy!

Congratulations to the 2020 Manitoba Games qualified athletes, 420 team of Teun Keijzer and Julianne Parent, and Optimist Male Oakley Prusak for the East Region!



Black Sturgeon Sailing Club

BY PHIL BURNS

The Black Sturgeon Sailing Club was a busy little club this year. The Club brought in the Mobile Sailing School for a full week for the first time. There was a certain amount of apprehension that we wouldn't be able to fill the classes for 5 days straight. As it turned out, we needn't have worried, as we ended up with 25 students registered for the week. The students were challenged with a wide variety of wind conditions and they all persevered through doldrums and whitecaps. It is safe to say we will go for another week of lessons next season. Big thanks go out to the instructors Kayden, Evan and Lauren. We hope to see you again next year.

The Club also hosted Sail Manitoba's BOOT Camp from August 1st to 4th and the Club was pleasantly surprised at how easy going this group of sailors were. It was a lot of fun to host and it was a great opportunity for our young sailors to train with the more experienced Team 'Toba. We hope to see the team back again next year.



Our own "older" sailors had fun this year practicing for the Canadian Master Laser Championships. Competing against 40 other seasoned vets was a ton of fun and we learned so much over the weekend. There is nothing like being schooled by the World Champion and past Olympians. We owe a big thank you to the folks at RLWYC for hosting and organizing this regatta and to Mike Couture who was instrumental in getting this event to RLWYC.

Congratulations to some of our young sailors who have had success this summer; Lauren Burns for winning the Richardson Regatta in July and to Julianne Parent and Teun Keijzer who qualified for the 2020 Manitoba Games in the 420 at Victoria Beach in August.

Our Club is young but its growing and part of the growth is in the racing series. This year we had a total of 15 races throughout the summer and we began tabulating the series with Sail wave. Next season we may try a pursuit race and perhaps a poker derby. We are always looking for people to join us at our races or lessons, so please reach out to us and we will accommodate you with rides, boat pick ups, etc etc.

Falcon Yacht Club

BY PENNY KELLY

Falcon Yacht Club Closes Out Another Successful Season. Members of the Falcon Yacht Club have put their boats away, tidied the grounds and raised the docks as the season wound up in late September.

Races were held on Saturdays and Sundays throughout the summer after a slow start due to the coolish spring weather. Typical dinghies on the start line include; Lasers, Tasars, a Wayfarer, a CL 16 and a Scow. For the second year in a row, a series of three keel boat races were held. The Keelboat series got a good number of dinghy sailors and some non-sailors out on the water as crew. Other activities rounding out the season included evening BBQ's, several skill development clinics and a provincial regatta. The Sail Manitoba Mobile Sailing School was at the Club in July providing lessons to eight eager kids and several intrepid adults.

In mid-July, the Club hosted the District 4 Laser Championships/ Summer of Sailing Regatta. This regatta was also the South Region qualifier for the 2020 Manitoba Games. 25 Boats were on the water for the weekend regatta, including 17 Lasers, 4 Optimists and 4 dual-handed boats. The weather was extremely variable, with the wind blowing, or not blowing and the direction shifting from every direction. It meant lots of adjusting by the race committee and lots of waiting for the sailors, but all had a good time. Many thanks to regatta chair, Paul Krestanowich, Katja Smutny and all the on-water support crew and, the FYC volunteers. A special thanks to FYC's Liz Hamanishi for organizing the evening BBQ.

In August, four Falcon sailors travelled to the Royal Lake of the Woods Yacht Club to compete in the Canadian Laser Masters Regatta. A large fleet and at least one day of very challenging winds made for exciting sailing. FYC's four sailors did the Club proud.

The Commodore's Cup was also held in August in very challenging winds. Eleven boats started the series of races with four left sailing by the end of the last race. The series was won by Craig Baker with Commodore Sharlene Telles-Langdon second. Matt Sauer finished third.

The FYC AGM will be held in October at which time our race series winner & most improved sailor will be named.

Members look forward to being back out on the water in 2020.



Gimli Yacht Club

BY LORA LEE BJORNSON

Save the Lake Fundraiser – The Kiwanis Club joined up with GYC for another successful year in working towards saving the lake. Both Lake Winnipeg Foundation and Lake Winnipeg Research Consortium received cheques for \$3856.67 presented by Charlie Burns, GYC Commodore and Paul Stanicky – Kiwanis, to myself, Roger Ramsey, a proud member of the Lake Winnipeg Foundation and Al Kristofferson for LWRC. I was the organizer for GYC and Karen Scott was the organizer for LWRC. Last year the revenues were about 4K so we doubled in one year. GYC and Kiwanis co-partnered the event and was held at GYC club site on June 30th. Kudos to all the volunteers that made this a huge success! The GYC site hosted over 200 people which included an information session hosted by Al Kristofferson – LWRC Namao and Alexis Kanu – LWF, discussed the threat of phosphate loading in Lake Winnipeg and the resultant eutrophication that can occur. Our Kiwanis partner ran a delicious fish fry. Contributed by Roger Ramsay

Hec n' Back –The GYC “Hec and Back” race for 2019 rewarded participants with a potpourri of sailing conditions. Twelve boats crossed the starting line Friday for the first day to Gull Harbour with moderate westerly winds. Completing the initial leg first was Resolute, followed by Paragon then Trinity. However, substantial winds picked up from the south that evening forcing a layover day at Gull Harbour and delaying the return race until Sunday. Crews during the layover took advantage of the renovated facilities at Gull Harbour, as well as partaking in an afternoon rum party sponsored by the GYC Commodore. On the return leg the wind was still gusting well over 20knots from the south making for strong headwinds and considerable seas, particularly at the north end of the basin. Indeed, only four boats completed the return leg with Trinity finishing first, followed by Beamer then Paragon. When the overall scores were calculated, the winner of Hec and Back for 2019 was Trinity, with Paragon placing second and Beamer third. Another excellent year for GYC's longest competitive race! Contributed by Peter Jones.

Leukemia Cup – GYC's 9th annual Leukemia Cup Regatta was held on August 10th. It featured a 10nm pursuit race for keel boats followed by a celebratory dinner. This year's regatta raised around \$9,000 (final totals are not yet available) and brings our fundraising for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society of Canada to almost \$50,000. Despite there being around 50 such events in the US, ours remains the only Leukemia Cup Regatta in Canada. We invite other clubs to get involved in this important fundraising. Also, Wolfe and Luann Smythe put on the Summer Solstice Sunset Sail & Spaghetti supper, all funds raised at this event are donated to the Leukemia Foundation. Contributed by Eric Turner

Sallywag - The GYC Sallywag was well attended with many Pirates of all ages, 23 registered boats and 18 raced. It was a Pursuit start with all pirates chasing each other to engage battle using their artillery of water balloons and water cannons. They sailed around the triangle course twice as they trimmed their sails to the varying NE wind. All points of sail were strategically used to gain full speed and position of advantage. There were no fatal injuries. However, as the first boats neared the finish line, it was Delphi baring down on Paragon like A Man of War. Alas, Paragon crossed first, Delphi close astern for second, and Chaya for third. This festive occasion was followed by a joyous Happy Hour, a Maritime Lobster Dinner, and a draw for a Free single GYC 2020 Membership for next year! Fun was had by One and All! Also, a cash donation was made to Evergreen Basic Needs! Contributed by Cliff Carefoot

Sailing School and Introduction to Sailing – We had another solid year with over 50 registrations for our sailing lessons. We offered 12 sessions over a 6 week period in Optimists, Lasers and new this year were two person Albacores. Youth LTS participants become automatic junior members of the club which allows them to use a club boat anytime during the summer. Adult members of the club are also able to use the Lasers and Albacores. This is particularly attractive to those who do not own their own sailboat. They can join Gimli YC and have a boat to sail.



Lake Winnipeg 40 - With a mass start of nine boats, all manoeuvring for that perfect start. The west wind caused the tight fleet to display constant sail trim, strategic sail plans and tacking strategies. Paragon was the first boat around the Victoria Beach racing mark. The fluctuating winds were challenging both close to shore at Vic Beach and as we attempted to sail fast to the next mark—the ODAS weather buoy. By this point in the race, boats were everywhere and in every direction with some retiring for various reasons. Rounding the weather mark, we noticed that the lead boats were closer together and some strategic decisions were in order as the wind shifted decidedly to the southwest. Do we sail west to the lee shore to avoid pounding through the waves, or press on southward and face those swells? With group input from our crew of four, Paragon did both but finally headed for the protection of the lee shore. This decision may have softened the waves but not the wind and we were over-canvassed and heeled to the max as we headed for the finish line with Trinity not far behind. After 40 miles and ever-changing conditions that only Lake Winnipeg can offer, five boats finished this gruelling race with Paragon winning by a mere 2 minutes 13 seconds corrected time over Trinity. How much closer can it get over 40 nautical miles? What a race! Contributed by Cliff Carefoot

Wednesday Night Racing – Thirteen boats competed in 12 races with 6 boats in Division 1, 5 boats in Division 2 and 2 boats in Division 3. The winds of Lake Winnipeg mostly cooperated throughout the summer. Competition was very close with top 3 finishers for each series decided on last race day. Check out GYC Facebook page for more information If you are interested in learning how to race, race by joining a crew contact Gimli Yacht Club directly, through the GYC Facebook page. Many thanks to Mike Guezen and everyone that assisted with running the 2018 WNR.

Manitoba Keelboat Championship – Held September 14 & 15, six boats competed in 5 races, 4 boats in 1 Division and 2 boats in 2 Division. Liquor Box is the 2019 Champion, Banue 2nd, Nepenthe 3rd, Paragon 4th with a relatively good weekend for weather after the winds from the south tapered down on Saturday. Brigitte Smutney and Bill Dawson joined the sailing crew from Banue for the weekend, taking a break from the European sailing retirement adventure. The GYC Lake Manitoba race was completed by Finisterre and Trinity, with Trinity winning the Championship.

Other changes introduced this year included both a male and a female instructor thanks to support from the Canada Summer Jobs Grant. This proved to be valuable with some of the young girls as they had someone to look up to. We also rebranded the lessons from Sailing School to Learn To Sail. And we identified sessions by CanSail designations rather than beginner, intermediate and advanced labels. We also introduced mandatory helmets for youth sailors. For the second year we followed up at the end of a session with a survey to the parents asking three questions: Did the participant have fun? Were expectations met? Would you recommend us to others? Plus we allowed open ended comments. Over all results of the survey continued to be strong and feedback showed where we can make improvements. Eight Interlake businesses and individuals provided scholarships/grants so that Interlake children have the opportunity to experience sailing. Contributed by Kevin Stewart.

Summer 2019 was an overall success and enjoyed by many. Many thanks to all of the volunteers with your help, couldn't do it without you!

Gimli Yacht Club is proud to continue its community support through charity's, scholarships for the Learn to Sail program & local business's. GYC continues to promote the sport of sailing as it offers Lasers, Opti's, and new this year Albacor's, kayaks and paddleboards. Anyone can join GYC, owning a sailboat is not required to be introduced to the sport of sailing. Here's wishing everyone a warm winter and an early spring!

Gull Lake Yacht Club

BY PAUL CARD



The GLYC had an eventful 2019 season. We had 5 new sailors join this year Kevin F., Derek, Catherine, Chloe and Anne. They all made good gains and had very strong showings during the annual regatta. The aluminum magnets on the bottom of Gull Lake were at full strength this year with a true panache for laser masts (Kenny, George). Despite these super natural forces the laser fleet achieved a new GLYC best of only 22.4% of the time using a dagger board as a sail. This year the Pierce brothers were at full furry. Cameron and Braden were prepared to sacrifice the entire fleet to determine who was the better captain. Luckily cooler heads prevailed and cannons were temporarily outlawed on Gull Lake while the dispute was settled. We're thankful for our seasoned advisors Dan, Dave, Garvin, Kevin T. and Kris.

Pelican Yacht Club

BY SUSAN BAIRD

This season we had 5 regular club races, our Big Bird Classic and the Commodores Cup.

The wind cooperated for most of the scheduled races. Our hope for 2020 season is to offer some Race clinics to our non-racing member to address some of the “start line anxiety”! Commodores Cup was the most popular event with everyone joining after for the “hillbilly” themed party.

Our social events, arranged by Doug Treloar and members included pickerel nights, steak nights, and other themed events. Our Paint Night fundraiser, hosted by Christine Block, continues to be a favorite evening with club and community members. Dennis Collingwood our Harbour Master, hosted folks from the Southwest Community Options for a day on the water, which was enjoyed by all. A special thank you to Mike Leech for his generosity in providing our awards, certificates and keeping our marketing updated.

The success of PYC learn to sail has been in large part due to the dedication of the head sailing instructor and the assistant sailing instructor. Gillian was the recipient of our “Commodores Cup” Award which is given in recognition of a club member’s dedication over the year to both the betterment of the club and their personal involvement with the club and its members. Thank you to both Gillian Craig and Andrew for their time with PYC.

We are pleased to welcome Lucas McPhail-Stouffer and Ben Stephenson as our new LTS instructors.

We look forward to a successful 2020 season.

Winnifred (Winnie) Baird 1931 to 2018



It has been almost a year since Winnie has passed. She was a member of PYC from 1975 to 2018 and served in all capacities. Winnie was the Commodore of PYC during the 1997 Canada Games which changed the face of PYC. She was a tireless volunteer. Winnie began sailing with her husband Harold, first on a Lazy E and then onto Hobie Cats. She and Harold had one harrowing Hobie sail which had her flying through the air on the trapeze, only to wrap her around one of the shrouds. It was that experience that had them move to keel boat sailing. She was a quiet and dedicated crew for Harold. However, could be seen muttering under her breath after every race. Her cabin and home were always full of sailors sharing stories and enjoying good food.

Winnie will be missed by all who knew her.

Royal Lake of the Woods Yacht Club

BY JEFF AND CAROL ANNE PARKHILL

Summer 2019 was one for the books! Royal Lake of the Woods Yacht Club hosted the Canadian Master Laser Championships August 15 - 18th. It came in like a lamb and went out like a lion. We could not have hoped for better conditions. We had over 46 laser and laser radial sailors out in the Yacht Club Stretch; the most we have had since 1986 Laser Districts. It was a huge success on and off the water. On the water we had variable conditions, starting with very light winds the first day and building each day, the 3rd day proving to be very heavy air. It was awesome and challenging!

We had a strong contingent from Alberta, Saskatchewan, and a decorated Canadian sailor, Andy Roy, in the fleet. Also, Ari Barshi, from Carib Wind in Cabarete, Dominican Republic. Ari also was our Overall Winner of the Regatta.



Our regular season of regattas were well attended. A highlight was adding more class of boats to the weekly fleet allowing some of our young sailors to get on the water and compete and take home some hardware! We will continue to grow this area of our club, promoting the racing experience to all boats. Our newest event The Family Over the Water Classic and Sail Past had a very good turn out and it was a wonderful place to start an annual tradition. We are very excited to add this to our calendar next summer.

July 27 and 28, the Richard Regatta was another huge success. We had more participants, both veteran and new sailors joining the fleet. We hope to see continued growth for this wonderful event.

Within our sailing program, week to week we had many young sailors who were enthusiastic and eager to learn. Our Wednesday night races were also well attended, growing week over week. Our Race Team was successful with many qualifying to participate in the 2020 Manitoba Summer Games. We are looking forward to next summer and continuing to grow our racing program and build on the successes over the summer.

The "Safe Harbour" project picked up again this fall, installing the rest of the new docks. This initiative was created to repair and replace fixed and floating docking, as well as storage facilities for the Club's sailing fleet. See you on the water!

Silver Harbour Yacht Club

BY JOHN STRUTHERS



Silver Harbour Sailing Club - Greetings from Silver Harbour Sailing Club! Hope you all had a good summer. We had all of our traditional events this summer - Opening BBQ, Canada Day celebrations, Closing BBQ, and Thanksgiving potluck dinner. There were a couple of large events at the marina that were not directly club related but well attended. The marina owners had their annual Thank you BBQ with live music and a couple of Sailors decided to get married at the marina also with an excellent live band. Otherwise it seemed to be a relatively quiet summer, with some sailors retiring some unfortunately passing, however we have several new members this summer. AGM meeting next and Banquet in the spring.

Have a good winter!

Victoria Beach Yacht Club

BY BRAD SCOTT

As the fall winds blow in it's time to reflect on another summer of sailing at the Victoria Beach Yacht Club. VBYC's Sailing School enjoyed the best participation in recent memory this year as our fantastic coaches (Tallon Sparks, Olivia and Andrew Thompson) once again brought the joy of sailing to students of all ages and skill levels. Our Sailing School is a special part of the Yacht Club and a Victoria Beach institution. Thanks coaches and sailors for everything you do to keep this program part of our tradition.

VBYC hosted a Sail Manitoba Development training camp and Manitoba Games East Region Qualifying Regatta, where one of our very own, Oakley Prusak, qualified! Following the late summer camp and qualifier, VBYC was proud to play host to provincial team weekend training this fall.

Despite the light weekend winds this summer, we've still had a strong fleet for our racing season. We are always looking for crew to join us so if any former sailing school students are interested in showing off their skills, we would love to have you join us. Special thanks to our Race Committee Daniel Derksen and Colin Degagne.

We are pleased to report that the Yacht Club Dance was once again a resounding success in terms of attendance, the enjoyment of patrons, and ultimately fundraising. We are exceptionally appreciative of everyone who joined us as revelers and volunteers. Your support helps improve our programming and positions the Yacht Club for the much needed capital projects that are required to increase accessibility, attract events, and grow our membership. Sometimes when we're having so much fun with this event we forget how critical it is to our operation. On behalf of all VBYC members and program participants: a huge THANK YOU to the entire Victoria Beach community for your support. The fundraising efforts have been fruitful and have allowed us to install a new washroom facility, to be fully functional in the spring of 2020. Aside from our programming, we had another great summer of recreational sailing, windsurfing, kiting, paddling, and hanging out at the beach here at the Yacht Club. There's a lot going on at the VBYC and we want everyone to come see what all the excitement is about. Drop by the club sometime or visit us online at www.vbyc.ca

West Hawk Lake Yacht Club

BY PAUL KRESTANOWICH

With a cool dry spring the club was able to complete the new stairs and deck, attaching our floating dock to our storage garage. A huge thanks to Jessie Lord for his incredible carpentry! This completed the 2 year capital project to have our new West Hawk Lake Sailing Centre ready for the summer of 2019. Plans are in the works for proper signage and some finishing touches on the building, including railings. All West Hawkers and surrounding lakes are welcome to come check us out, watch for the announcement of the grand opening party in 2020!

The Learn to Sail lessons ran July 22-26 and were fully booked online in June with 35 participants so plans for expanded weeks of lessons are in the works for next summer. This marked the 14th year of the lessons and we used our club boats along with the Sail Manitoba mobile program so we could accommodate all the sailors. We had excellent certified instructors teaching this year, Anthony Clark, Becca Brown along with local sailor Evan Owen. They were assisted by Kendra Penner (Falcon), Sydney Odowichuk (Pelican) and Madeline Krestanowich.



For 2020 the club is also looking at adding yoga, boot camp, paddle boarding and kayaking to the fitness schedule to fully utilize our new facility and dock.

On a sad note we learned of the passing of local cottager Paul Albrechtsen, Paul has always been a generous supporter of local community projects. He was one of our Platinum sponsors last year helping us cross the finish line with the fundraising to make our new sailing centre a reality. Our sincere condolences to Mary Lou and children.

The 2020 Manitoba Games qualifiers for sailing were July 20-21 at the Falcon Yacht Club and four of our local sailors took part in the double handed boats. Madeline Krestanowich & Sydney Odowichuk (Pelican Lake) finished second and Cole Anseeuw & Aaron Krestanowich finished third.

The WHLYC Opti Championships were run July 25-26 at Big Island Landing with 21 kids participating. Willem Cuthbert finished in 1st place in the U13 category and 2nd place in the U10 category went to . Unfortunately our full results were not available as a rain storm came through right near the end of the day and completely washed out our coach's results from the races....if your child won a medal please let us know so we can cobble together the results.

The Canadian Laser Masters Championships were August 16-18 at the Royal Lake of the Woods Yacht Club in Kenora, local sailors Cam McCulloch and Paul Krestanowich participated (Paul with the help of Brennan Agar's race ready Laser). Cam finished 25th overall and Paul 31st against some insanely good competition including a former Pan Am Games gold medalist, former World Laser champion, a couple of Olympic sailors and quite a few former national champions and national team members. Congrats guys! Our local West Hawk Lake Yacht Club Annual Race Series only had good enough wind this year for one day of races in July. Unfortunately our other two scheduled race days had zero wind..... Cole Anseeuw took 1st (Laser), 2nd place Aaron Krestanowich (Laser Radial), 3rd place Owen Ryan (Laser), 4th place Declan Ryan & Colin Krestanowich (Invitation). In the Opti races Susanna Weatherill 1st place, Rachel Anseeuw & Linnea Booth 2nd place.

Thank you again for those that have donated generously towards our capital campaign. We could not complete this legacy without your help. For those that would still like to donate please contact us at info@whlyc.ca or 204-479-7100.

Check our website for regular updates and all the recently downloaded 2019 pictures: www.whlyc.ca
Have a great winter and we'll see you on the water soon!

2020 Manitoba Games

There has been a date change for the sailing event for the Dauphin Manitoba Games next summer. Sailing will now be in phase one, competing **August 9-12, 2020**

Sail Manitoba is still looking for a few more sailors to qualify for the 2020 Manitoba Games in Dauphin! Two regions are left to fill with Winnipeg BLUE and GOLD qualifiers scheduled for the 2020 sailing season. Keep a look out for the final two region qualifying events Spring 2020.

CLASSES AND AGE CATEGORIES:

Optimist - sailors borns 2006-2010

Laser Radial - sailors born 2003-2007

420 - sailors born 2003-2007

For more information about the qualifiers and Manitoba Summer Games, please contact our office!



Temple Reef Sailing Club

BY ROSS BAILEY

April 15th to October 15th, or should I say, Ice to Ice... And actually, one crew escaped the frozen north during March to sail the Southern Circuit, Florida. Maybe the standout was the Richard Walsh crew of Richard, Alex Cox and Nikka Stoger who trailed to Montreal for the Lightning Pan Am trials on the May 24th weekend, won the trials, immediately shipped their boat to Peru so it would be there for the Games, and then worked on logistics to get to and sail in the Pan Am Games. Argentina may have placed first in this edition of the Pan Am's but we are very proud of our own Temple Reef sailors who were good enough to sail on this international stage, come back with great war stories and better still, help us all get a little faster on the water. Congrats Richard, Alex and Nikka!

On our doorstep, Sail Thunder Bay, the sailing school organized and run by Temple Reef Sailing Club had a banner year with the most lessons taught in recent memory. It's impossible to imagine how much volunteer effort goes into a sailing school. It is more than a full time job. Thank you to Deb Broll, Mitchell Sandberg and many others, and thank you to all the staff for introducing the joys of sailing to so many and encouraging growth of this sport we all love. Sail Thunder Bay also travelled to Amethyst Harbour for a week to host lessons.

Cam of course sailed in the Amethyst Weekend races, hosted by Ross and Nancy Bailey. This year the BBQ was at Cedar Lodge, a beautiful log "cabin". Cedar Lodge was the original Bailey cottage at Amethyst now owned by Porter Bailey who is ensuring it will endure another hundred years and hopefully host many more Amethyst Weekend parties. Several keelboats sail in these races each year but the Lightnings most always come out ahead. The fact is, the Lightning fleet in Thunder Bay is in great condition and all are sailing very well. Ross and Nancy with Cam McLean won the weekend, but Alex Cox was only a half a point back. Wonderfully close racing.

Thursday is the day we all look forward to each week as it is dinghy race night. We get 2, 3 or 4 (once in a while 5) races in and rarely does the same boat win more than one race per night. After racing we get to ask the evening winner three questions, ostensibly on how they went so fast. The winner Lori Walsh answered the most questions and we'll definitely use this new info next year to try to beat you.

Temple Reef is a small club but a vibrant group and probably has the best one design dinghy racing in Canada these days. We'd love to have a few Manitoba sailors join us at one of our regattas.

Please feel free to call or email Ross Bailey, 807-983-2889 or ross.v.bailey@gmail.com We'll organize a pleasant place for you to stay and offer good sailing.

P.S. Exciting Announcement! Temple Reef Sailing Club is hosting the 2020 Canadian Lightning Championships, July 4th/5th. Dig up a Lightning and come sail exciting Lake Superior! Boats will be attending from as far away as Montreal, Vancouver, Chicago and points beyond. Why not Winnipeg? The weekend backs off of Canada Day and will be a blast!



Zig Zag Yacht Club

BY IVY NAMAKA

Zig Zag Yacht Club was proud to commemorate its 65th Anniversary, celebrating a long history of creating memories with family and friends in Clearwater Bay. Sixty five years ago, the Club began with a group of families and a love for sailing and has evolved into a vibrant and welcoming gathering place, offering many programs and events throughout the summer months.

Along with celebrating the past, Zig Zag Yacht Club saw several changes by welcoming new Commodore, Ivy Namaka and hiring our first Club Director Lori King.

During the 2019 sailing season, Zig Zag Yacht Club saw a marked increase in attendance of younger new sailors and welcomed back many returning sailors. ZZYC 's Learn to Sail program ran from July 1-August 9 on Monday to Friday mornings for a total of six weeks. Our Club utilized the CAN Sail sailing curriculum, and welcomed participants ages five and up with various skill levels. The sailing staff of, Head Instructor Dylan Pare, instructors Amelie Alkier, Aidan Alvalvarado and Aislyn Breiter did a fantastic job teaching and encouraging our eager sailors. ZZYC hosted two regattas, beginning with the ZZYC Open on July 20, 2019, which saw Rob Smith and Jordan Karlson sail to victory. Our second sailing race, the ZZYC 65th Anniversary Regatta was hosted on August 17, 2019 and the dynamic duo of Laurel Snyder and Aneira Breiter claimed first place. The Regatta was followed with a 65th Anniversary Family Barbeque and infamous ZZYC Duck Race.



ZZYC offered many programs such as “Learn at the Lake” educational sessions, Summer Fun, fitness, swimming and tennis. Tennis professionals George and Kevin Kylar brought an unbridled passion and energy to our tennis program. Fitness Coach Mike Reid was eager and enthusiastic to engage the lake community in an active lifestyle. ZZYC also provided many events for members and guests, and welcomed all to our new “Happy Hour” at the Club on Wednesdays.

In closing we would like to thank everyone who attended events and participated in programming. We also thank our many volunteers who selflessly donate many hours to make ZZYC a better place for all. It was a great summer and we are counting down the days until our 2020 season. For further information please visit us at zzyc.ca or follow us on Facebook or Instagram at [zigzag yachtclub](https://www.instagram.com/zigzag yachtclub).



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